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REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TUNGSTEN ON ITS TWENTY-SECOND SESSION

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
from 10 to 14 December 1990

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INTRODUCTION

1. The twenty-second session of the Committee on Tungsten was held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, from 10 to 14 December 1990. In the course of its session, the Committee held five plenary meetings.

2. The Sessional Working Group of the Committee met from 10 to 12 December and held four meetings.

Opening statement

3. In his introductory statement, the Deputy to the Secretary-General of UNCTAD and Director of the Commodities Division said that the role of the Committee as a forum for consultations between producers and consumers was now even more important, in the face of further weakening of the tungsten market. Stabilization of supply and demand had, by and large, remained an elusive objective. Since the Committee had last met, tungsten prices had continued to slide further from their already low levels. This situation was accompanied by a continued over-abundant supply of tungsten, with shipments of concentrates and intermediate products increasing by over 50 per cent between 1986 and 1989. The historically low prices and over-abundant supply continued to affect many countries members of the Committee in the form of mine shutdowns and/or reduced domestic processing plant capacities. In view of the Committee's role, he stressed the need for better tungsten statistics. To this end the sustained support of member Governments was necessary. The secretariat would also welcome suggestions for strengthening the participation of industry advisers in the work of the Committee, especially in the area of research and development. Referring to the possibility of the Committee being designated as an international commodity body (ICB) for the purpose of financing by the Second Account of the Common Fund for Commodities, he stated that the Executive Board of the Common Fund would consider this matter further only if the Committee took a formal decision requesting such designation.

Chapter I

DISCUSSIONS OF THE SESSIONAL WORKING GROUP

(Agenda item 3)

(a) Examination of statistics provided by the secretariat

(b) Review of the current market situation and outlook

4. Introducing the main working document under agenda item 3 (a) (TD/B/C.1/TUNGSTEN/STAT/L.57), the representative of the UNCTAD secretariat urged caution regarding the estimates for 1990, which were based on preliminary and incomplete data and might therefore be subject to substantial revision. He invited delegations to transmit, if they had not already done so, national estimates for 1990 and forecasts for 1991 so as to provide the Committee with a revised and updated document. Accurate figures were indispensable for the Committee to assess the market situation and arrive at a short-term market outlook in line with the terms of reference of the Sessional Working Group. He also invited the Committee to comment on the secretariat estimates and to provide suggestions for improving them, as necessary. (For updated statistics on production, consumption, trade and stocks of ores and concentrates, see annex I.)

5. The representatives of Australia, Portugal and the United States of America commented on the quality of the secretariat's estimates. Corrections were made to some of the figures. There was concern that the statistics of some important consuming and producing countries were still based on estimates. This made it difficult to derive an accurate picture of the tungsten market. It was hoped that, with the on-going economic reforms in eastern Europe, some essential data would become available to enable the secretariat to improve market transparency.

6. The representative of China stated that China was a net exporter of tungsten. Most of its production, however, was geared to meeting domestic consumption. China's domestic production and consumption thus had little bearing on the international market. In accordance with current policies, China published no production or consumption statistics. Aware of its responsibility, China had made available the statistics concerning tungsten exports based on its customs sources. With these statistics, he considered that his delegation had done its share in contributing to the transparency of the international market.

7. The representative of the United States of America referred to the six-week rule, agreed on by the Committee at a previous session, regarding the timely distribution of documents to delegations. He noted that although he had received all other documents on time, the one on tungsten statistics had not been made available within the time-limit, making a full review of the statistics difficult. He also noted that most data were estimated and hoped that improvements in data could be made.

8. The representative of Portugal expressed regret that there were many references to "estimated" data in the document Tungsten Statistics, even for data pertaining to past years. This situation was contrary to the transparency required for smooth market adjustments.

9. In introducing the document on market review (TD/B/C.1/TUNGSTEN/84), the representative of the UNCTAD secretariat stressed the weak tungsten prices, the oversupply situation, the continued competition among suppliers of concentrates and intermediate products, and the large stock of tungsten materials and excess mine capacities overhanging the tungsten market. He also highlighted the damage caused by oversupply and unrestrained competition in the market. This had driven prices down. In this regard, he identified three aspects, namely: the economic and social losses caused by mine shutdowns in many producing countries; the diminishing returns in any attempt to sell more tungsten in an already-saturated market; and the depletion of mineral resources. As regards the outlook, there were uncertainties in the market. The oversupply of materials would continue to exert its downward pressure on prices at least for some time and shipments of intermediate materials would continue to play an important role in the supply of tungsten.

10. The representative of China gave an account of the efforts made by his Government to stabilize tungsten price and improve the tungsten market. Following an initial improvement at the beginning of 1987 and relative stabilization in July 1989, the tungsten market had again begun deteriorating since August 1989, with the tungsten price registering a steady decline. In his view, the underlying cause was the growing imbalance in supply and demand. The principal contributing factors, however, were not those associated with the increase in world tungsten production but rather the effects of stagnation or steady decline in the domestic demand of the major consumers.

11. Since 1989 there had been a decline in economic growth in the major industrialized countries. The sluggish situation in the automobile, steel, machine-building and construction industries of the major tungsten-consuming countries, new technological developments, increased recovery of scrap tungsten and the growth of substitutes had all contributed to a steady drop in tungsten demand in those countries. On the supply side, the closure of a great many tungsten mines in the West during the 1980s, particularly since 1985, had resulted in a sharp fall in their tungsten production. As far as the situation in China was concerned, the production of tungsten ores in 1989 and 1990 had dropped rather than increased compared with the two previous years. The alleged increase in the world's tungsten production was simply not true and the report of an increase in China's production was even more at variance with the facts.

12. He added that his Government had a great interest in market stability. China had borne the brunt of the successive falls in tungsten prices and his country had incurred losses. For many years, the Chinese Government had sought ways to improve the tungsten market and to stabilize prices. China was ready to work with other countries in the common interest of producers. At the fifth Meeting of Government Representatives of Tungsten Producing and Exporting Countries, the Chinese delegation had made suggestions on stabilizing tungsten prices and improving the tungsten market. Various participants at the meeting had agreed after discussions to adopt a mechanism of regular consultations among the tungsten exporting and producing countries with the aim of achieving the price level of $US 69-72 per metric ton unit (m.t.u) for wolframite. Subsequently at the sixth meeting in Sydney (Australia) in October 1989, the participants had reached agreement on price levels to be attained: $US 74-77 per m.t.u for scheelites; $US 95 per m.t.u for ammonium paratungstate (APT); and $US 10.37 to 10.57 per kilogramme for

ferro-tungsten. China had also signed the Orderly Marketing Arrangement with the United States and had equally undertaken a programme of price increases with the European Economic Community on the exports of tungsten and tungsten products. It had also reduced tungsten ores production and tightened licence controls. In 1990, China was exercising further restriction on its exports and expected to make more cutbacks. These measures testified to the efforts to improve the tungsten market. However, joint efforts of producers and consumers alike were necessary, not just that of a few countries. A fundamental solution to the problem lay in appropriate action by the Committee on Tungsten towards an agreement among the producers and consumers on measures to stabilize the tungsten market. Making appeals to a few countries to take action while eschewing international measures could not engender an improved or stable market. Moreover, such an approach would be unacceptable to his delegation.

13. The representative of the United States of America stated that total United States tungsten demand in 1990 was expected to reach 18.7 million pounds, approximately 19 per cent less than in 1989. Although demand in the first half of 1990 had remained constant, demand in the second half of 1990 had begun to falter with the general decline in the overall economy, especially in the automotive sector. National production of ammonium paratungstate (APT) in 1990 was expected to decrease significantly over the level of 1989, by approximately 14 per cent, to 14.8 million pounds. Despite this drop in production, United States consumption of intermediate products had remained essentially unchanged from that of 1989. Capacity utilization rates in the APT sector had declined commensurate with the decrease in APT production, to approximately 57 per cent in 1990, compared with rates of 68 and 71 per cent in 1989 and 1988, respectively. As regards ores and concentrates, the United States rates had continued a downward trend from the levels of the early 1980s. The steep decline in the prices for these products during 1990 had caused the two operating United States mines to produce only intermittently. Several United States mines remained inactive because of declining prices and the surge in concentrate imports since 1987.

14. Net imports continued to represent approximately three quarters of apparent United States tungsten consumption. China remained the largest supplier to the United States market, despite the Orderly Market Agreement (OMA) established by the United States and China. The current OMA would remain in effect for the first nine months of 1991, lending some stability to the level of APT and tungstic acid imports, but after the OMA's scheduled expiration, the situation was unclear.

15. Regarding the United States Government tungsten stockpile, during the first nine months of 1990 there had been no sales of either stockpile-grade or non-stockpile-grade materials. Possibly, in future, small quantities of non-stockpile-grade ore and concentrate could be released in support of the ferro-alloy upgrading programme. Any release of stockpile-grade ore and concentrate was unlikely since that goal had been increased by 40 per cent, and it now exceeded inventories.

16. The tungsten outlook for 1991 was generally pessimistic. Decreased demand and production, and little relief from the import levels of 1990 could be expected. Demand for tungsten in the United States was expected to decrease by 9 per cent in 1991, to approximately 17 million pounds. This decrease reflected expectations of lower overall economic growth for the

national economy and the possibility of a recession. The Persian Gulf crisis could have either positive or negative impacts on demand in 1991. Higher oil prices would encourage increased oil drilling activity and thus increase the demand for tungsten. However, the slowdown in demand by the transportation sector would probably be exacerbated by higher oil prices.

17. Beyond 1991, increased production of ores and concentrates in the United States was unlikely, assuming prices for these materials remained at current levels or even increased slightly in real terms. The outlook for the production of intermediate tungsten products would depend upon the situation prevailing after the expiration of the current OMA as well as on the level of imports. Overall tungsten consumption was expected to return to the levels of 1988 and 1989. Technical changes in major end-use sectors for tungsten, especially in cutting tools, would mean reduced tungsten consumption. Military applications for tungsten could assume a greater role in demand.

18. The representative of Germany said that the German economy had been expanding steadily for more than eight years. The 1989 GNP in the western part of Germany had grown by 4 per cent in real terms and a similar result was to be expected for 1990. Despite current economic difficulties in the eastern part, an economic upswing was likely in the near future. Inflation had been running at 3.5 per cent and was now being pushed up by price effects stemming from the current Persian Gulf crisis. Modernization and restructuring of the economy in eastern Germany and its infrastructure would create an enormous demand. With regard to tungsten, statistics for a united Germany were still not available. In the western part, however, the consumption of tungsten was nearly as high in 1990 as in 1989.

19. Referring to the current situation in the tungsten sector, he expressed the hope that the tungsten market would become more transparent. He also drew attention to the fact that representatives of the tungsten industry appeared to be losing interest in participating in the Committee on Tungsten. In this connection, he called on participants to help make meetings more attractive to companies in the tungsten industry. He concluded that participation of industry representatives in a producer/consumer forum was necessary for a fruitful exchange in the Committee.

20. The representative of Australia observed that the situation in the world tungsten market had clearly worsened. Despite strong economic growth and improved demand for tungsten, prices had fallen, contrary to the situation for other mineral products. Of particular concern was the poor response of demand to the substantial reduction in real prices. Therefore, he thought that it was highly appropriate to review research and development programmes promoting new applications for tungsten. Turning to tungsten production in Australia, he said that output was likely to fall to around 350 metric tons in 1991 compared to 940 and 1,989 metric tons in 1990 and 1989, respectively. In fact, 1991 production was expected to be only one-tenth of the 1985 output of 3,558 metric tons. The King Island scheelite mine in Tasmania had just been closed down; at present only one Australian mine was continuing production. The low price of intermediate tungsten products - implying zero processing costs - had depressed concentrate prices to the point where the number of operating mines in the world had fallen from 128 in 1980 to 40 in 1989. He added that the principal problem facing the world tungsten market was not only a lack of transparency but also a massive over-supply. He noted that although China had been exhorted to control its production and exports, regrettably

this objective had not been achieved. Nevertheless, the problems confronting China in regulating production were appreciated. Finally, he said that unless the supply of low-priced intermediate products was controlled, the outlook for tungsten would remain gloomy for many years.

21. The representative of France stated that, following the dynamic trends of 1988, the economic performance of her country had remained strong in 1989, achieving a growth rate of 3.7 per cent. The level of economic growth of France was practically identical to the average for its European economic partners, and nearer to Germany's growth of 4 per cent. However, previous growth performance, estimated at 2.6 per cent for the whole of 1990, was unlikely to continue. The principal driving force for economic growth in 1989 as in the preceding year had been capital investment by enterprises and the export sector.

22. The strong performance of the French economy had sustained a strong market for tungsten products in 1989. However, since the latter part of 1990, there had a been a slowdown of demand which would continue in 1991. Production of tungsten in 1989 had reached 700 metric tons. There were two main reasons for the fall: the effects of stock drawdowns and the decrease of demand in the armament sector. Consumption in 1989 had probably been 400 metric tons for tungsten carbide and 200 metric tons for primary tungsten powder. The supply of ammonium paratungstate, now coming mainly from China, was estimated to have reached 590 metric tons in 1990 compared with 933 metric tons in 1989. Regarding ferro-tungsten, total imports had reached 600 metric tons for 1989 and 182 metric tons for the first six months of 1990.

23. In conclusion, she said that the market situation in France was characterized by a cyclical slowdown. She noted that, besides the fall in inventory levels, there was a real decline in tungsten consumption in its traditional applications, largely due to scrap recycling and use of protective tool coatings. It appeared important to support efforts within a wider framework than that of the individual enterprise, with a view to undertaking research and development for new applications of tungsten.

24. The representative of Portugal said that in his country tungsten mining remained very depressed, with only one mine still open. Portuguese tungsten production in 1989 had amounted to 2,296 metric tons of concentrates with a tungsten metal content of 1,376 metric tons. This was 5 metric tons less than in 1988. It was expected that the 1990 output would be very close to the 1989 figure. Before 1986, eight tungsten mines had been in operation in Portugal. Owing to the crash of the tungsten market, seven of these mines had been placed on a care and maintenance programme funded by the Portuguese State. Four of these mines had some potential, but required further geological evaluation before making investment decisions on re-opening them some time in the future. At current prices, three of the mines under the maintenance programme would not be able to re-open. The Panasqueira Mine, still in operation, had recently been acquired by Minorco. The new owners had a large investment programme under way, which was designed essentially to reduce production costs through increased productivity. In the foreseeable future it would remain the only producing mine in Portugal and in the EEC.

25. Despite strong economic growth in the last four years, the downstream tungsten industry in Portugal was in no better shape than the mining sector. All production of intermediate products, including ferro-tungsten, had

ceased. Unlike past crises and despite a growing world demand, tungsten market prices had remained stubbornly low. This situation was worsened by the widening gap between maximum and minimum prices and the difference between concentrate prices and APT which had continued declining during 1990. This situation was probably a consequence of unkept promises on the part of some producing countries. Whatever the real causes, protectionist attitudes would be growing in the near future. These developments were not in the long-term best interest of either producers or consumers. Finally, he said that Portugal had supported the last European Commission decision to change from provisional to definitive import duties applied to tungsten concentrates.

26. Referring to the estimated data, the representative of the United States noted that there were numerous estimates. The secretariat's suggestion to request Committee members to provide historical data for the revision of earlier years was appropriate, as it would enable the Committee to obtain a clearer picture.

27. Introducing TD/B/C.1/TUNGSTEN/85, the represented of the UNCTAD secretariat observed that there had been a low response to the secretariat's request for information to complete the list of the different definitions and methodologies used in major tungsten-producing countries, as requested by the Committee. Only two replies had been received by the time the document was prepared, namely from China and Spain. Moreover, the reply of Spain provided comments only on the definition of methodology used by the United States Bureau of Mines to derive mine capacities. During the course of the current session a further three countries had transmitted their replies which would be annexed to the report (Annex II). He hoped that other members of the Committee could also furnish information so as to enable the secretariat to proceed with completion of the list.

28. The representative of the Republic of Korea said that the Korean tungsten industry had suffered severely from the long-depressed international tungsten price and the continuing unstable world tungsten market. During the past decade all of the smaller mines in the Republic of Korea which once produced tungsten either primarily or as a by-product had been forced to shut down. Currently, only one big scheelite mine was still in operation, but at a reduced capacity. For 1990, production was estimated to be below 1,300 metric tons tungsten content, about 20 per cent less than in 1989. A further reduction in production seemed inevitable in the years to come unless there was a considerable improvement in the price of tungsten. With regard to consumption, he stated that all ores produced in the Republic of Korea were now being consumed locally for conversion into downstream products. The total demand for ores and concentrates, currently at around 2,000 metric tons tungsten content, was expected to remain constant, or to increase marginally. He also noted that, owing to the reduction in tungsten production and despite sufficient mining and production capacities, his country was no longer a net tungsten ore exporter, but had become a net tungsten importing country. Referring to the statement by the representative of China, he said that his country was encouraged by the Chinese efforts to stabilize tungsten prices and to improve the world tungsten market. He considered that China, the largest producer and exporter of tungsten, could play an important role in the stabilization and improvement of the world tungsten price.

29. The representative of the International Tungsten Industry Association (ITIA) said that the best guide to what was happening in the tungsten market was price. He noted that at the time of the twenty-first session of the Committee, the Metal Bulletin's wolframite and scheelite prices had stood at $US 44 to 60 and $US 56 to 72 per metric ton unit, respectively. The corresponding prices at present were, respectively, $US 37 to 49 and $US 52 to 71 per m.t.u. The ammonium paratungstate (APT) price was currently also down. The ferro-tungsten price per kilogramme had climbed by nearly $US 1 by the end of August 1990 but then had begun to decline again. However, in both 1988 and 1989, consumption of tungsten had been healthy, owing to a revival in industrial activity and admittedly a certain amount of purchasing for stocks. However, the market remained over-supplied and additional mines were closing down. He observed that, if tungsten prices had not risen in the previous sound economic climate, there appeared to be little likelihood of higher prices now, if current patterns of supply and pricing continued. He welcomed China's recent decision to publish its export statistics for intermediate products and concentrates. Substitution and recycling were inevitable, he said. Although at current prices, substitution was not a particular problem, recycling had been increasing. He noted the abandonment of barter trade by the USSR and the change to convertible currency for payments as of the end of 1990, as well as anti-dumping cases implemented or contemplated in the United States of America and the EEC.

30. The representative of Sweden said that his country was a tungsten consumer and played an important role in the market. At present there were three tungsten consumers in Sweden: a steel company, Kloster Speedsteel, and two cemented carbide companies: Sandvik Coromant and Seco Tools. Over two-thirds of Swedish tungsten consumption was in the cemented carbide sector. Both the cemented carbide and steel industries were highly dependent on exports. He added that consumption of ores and concentrates in Sweden had amounted to about 320 metric tons in 1989 - a level which probably remained fairly stable in 1990. Concerning the total consumption of tungsten, during the 1980s it had shifted considerably from primary products to intermediate products, mainly APT. Taken together, the consumption of ores, concentrates and intermediate products in 1989 had reached a level of about 2,000 metric tons. For 1990, total consumption was predicted to remain at the same level with no major change forecast for 1991. He also noted that, owing to the closure of Sweden's only tungsten mine in 1989, Swedish industries were now entirely dependent on imports of tungsten ores and concentrates.

31. The representative of the USSR said that market developments were influenced primarily by general economic factors: deceleration of the rate of economic growth and a decrease of production in a number of industries consuming tungsten products. The specific character of the market, determined by relative narrowness, was the immediate response of prices to the changes in supply and demand in the direct sphere of foreign trade. The outlook for consumption of tungsten and the possibilities for increasing its utilization were now more favourable, he said. The decrease of consumption in the defence sector would be followed by increased utilization in the civil sector, stimulated by the current level of world prices.

32. He noted that the trend in the world trade of tungsten products was towards a decreasing share of raw materials and an increasing share of intermediate products, which accounted now for one-third of world exports.

The same tendency had been observed in markets for other metal raw materials and semi-finished products. It was also necessary to note the increase in 1990 and earlier of protectionist tendencies in the world trade of tungsten.

33. Referring to the prospects for the world tungsten market, he pointed out that the latest prognosis for economic development had again been reconsidered; predictions were now more pessimistic, which would not have a positive effect on the tungsten market. At the same time the development of the situation in the Persian Gulf zone could influence to some extent the tungsten market. Demand for tungsten-containing materials might rise if there was any delay of a peaceful solution.

34. The consumption of tungsten concentrate in the USSR had stabilized. Some 57 to 58 per cent of total consumption of concentrates was accounted for by hard alloy production while the rest was consumed in special steel production. As an importer of tungsten, the USSR had entered for the first time in 1990 the world tungsten market as an exporter of tungsten products. In 1990 the Soviet Union exported the first 250 tons of tungsten powders. The Soviet tungsten industry had very favourable prerequisites for further development, with proven reserves of tungsten trioxide for a period of 60 years of production at current levels. In order to increase the production of tungsten concentrate, the USSR tungsten industry was prepared to attract foreign capital on the basis of investment compensation either in terms of tungsten products or other goods, in an agreement between partners.

35. The tungsten industry in the USSR was also influenced by the policy of perestroika. The centrally planned economic model was being gradually replaced by the regulated market-economy model. Structural changes in the Soviet Union economy had provided for the transfer of the centres of regulation and administration of industry and agriculture to the regions and Republics of the USSR. Likewise, certain changes were taking place in the organization of statistical work. He believed that the appropriate tungsten statistics would be available very soon.

36. The USSR also stressed the growing importance of environmental aspects of tungsten production and consumption, including sustainable utilization of mineral resources and recycling. The recent Trade and Development Board decision 384 (XXXVII) was highly relevant to the work of the Committee on Tungsten, particularly paragraph 1 of that decision, which states that the objective of sustainable development should be incorporated into all areas of UNCTAD's work at the intergovernmental level and that the respective Committees at their forthcoming sessions should consider activities in relation to sustainable development in the context of their work programmes. In this connection, he proposed that the Committee on Tungsten should pay due attention in its future work to various aspects of environmental sustainability of the world tungsten economy.

37. The representative of Japan drew attention to the downward trend of wolframite prices in the 1980s. In his opinion the causes of depressed prices were multiple although the most notable seemed to be an increasing supply of intermediate products at low prices, such as ferro-tungsten and ammonium paratungstate. Intermediate products had also had a strong impact on the Japanese market. The 1989 imports of ores were 17 per cent below the 1988 level of 2,316 tons. However, mine production had increased by about

12 per cent to 489 metric tons (gross base) in 1989. Regarding demand, despite lower consumption of tungsten ores, domestic consumption of primary metal had increased by 12 per cent in 1989. This development reflected the effectiveness of measures taken to promote domestic demand. Especially notable was the remarkable rise in the consumption of primary metal used for cemented carbide tools, which had reached 4,009 metric tons, an increase of 37 per cent over 1988.

38. Referring to the recycling of tungsten, he said that research and development under way in Japan was aimed at finding an economical method of recycling cemented carbide alloy scrap and developing recycled products with multiple uses. However, since no statistics on recycling were available, he could not give a clear picture on recycling in Japan, but he admitted that the prospect for increasing the recycling of tungsten was rather dim at present, given the depressed price of tungsten and the low grade of recycled metal which was used as a by-product for special steel. Turning to substitution, he said that the cemented hard tools industry (the biggest user of tungsten) relied heavily on overseas supply, by as much as 95 per cent. He noted that in Japan the industry was faced with higher requirements for new materials for tools. Such developments had facilitated tungsten-free manufacturing of cutting and drilling tools in two ways. Firstly, the use of various coating materials had extended the lifespan of tools. Secondly, there was greater use of substitutes, in particular cermets, which had accounted for a share of nearly 30 per cent of practically all the indexable inserts in 1989 and were expected to exceed tungsten carbide in 1990. With regard to special steel, molybdenum and nickel alloys had become major substitute materials for tungsten steels; their use would be increasingly felt in the future supply and demand situation of tungsten.

39. The Deputy to the Secretary-General of UNCTAD and Director of the Commodities Division said that a number of points raised in national statements covered matters calling for serious thought. He referred particularly to the statement made by the representative of Germany, who had noted the decreasing interest of industry in the meetings of the Committee and questioned how the Committee could be made more efficient and attractive to the relevant companies in the tungsten business. He observed that this decrease in interest was occurring paradoxically at a time when the industry appeared to be undergoing a crisis. He also noted that, although most speakers had stressed the importance of transparency in the tungsten market, the data on production and consumption reported by the countries covered only about 25 per cent of the total. He felt that the shifts in the structure of production and consumption towards concentration in a few countries and towards special trade arrangements might have contributed to waning interest on the part of industry. He suggested that the Committee should ask itself whether - and how - proposals such as producer-consumer stabilization agreements, or greatly increased transparency, or international co-operation for research and development on new uses could be pursued further.

40. The representative of the United States of America said that the industry was in a crisis situation; ideas were needed on how the Committee could make its work more attractive to industry participants. As far as the United States was concerned, the Committee was not dead. More industry advisers had expressed interest in participating in the current session than in the previous one. However, owing to unforeseen circumstances, they had not been able to do so. In his view, the Committee could stimulate discussions on

some of the difficulties faced by industry. Part of the problem was that the Committee kept on discussing the same subjects, some of which had no chance of consensus and led nowhere, instead of having a programme which would interest industry advisers enough to attend the meeting.

41. The representative of the European Economic Community said that the Committee should look for the reasons for the low participation by industry. These might include the absence of any real exchange of information or the disproportionate length of meetings in relation to what the Committee could offer in return that was unique.

42. The representative of Germany said that his earlier statement did not imply that industry advisers were no longer interested in the tungsten market. He supported the conclusion of the Director of the Commodities Division that industry advisers did not participate in the meeting because they felt unable to influence the development. He pointed out that as long as major suppliers did not make public their figures and intentions, and as long as substantial talks were not possible under these conditions, industry representatives might no longer wish to participate in the Committee. The Committee should find a way to attract interest. In his view, meetings of the Committee should be a forum for consumers and producers, with participation of those persons affected by the development of the recent tungsten crisis. The presentations of the Soviet guest speakers (see paras. 48ff) seemed to be a step in the right direction, he felt. He urged the Committee to avoid discussing year after year the proposal for a tungsten agreement with price-stabilizing measures, which he described as totally unrealistic and unacceptable.

43. In the view of the industry adviser representing Austria, the main reason for the absence of industry advisers was that many of them attended the International Tungsten Industry Association (ITIA) meetings as representatives of their companies. ITIA held annual meetings, provided statistics, organized a seminar every two years and a symposium every three years and, in other words, competed with the UNCTAD Committee on Tungsten.

44. The representative of France cautioned against exaggerating the crisis in the work of the Committee. She considered the work on statistics to be fundamental and an area in which the Committee needed to make progress. The Committee should focus on subjects of interest to the tungsten industry. She cited new uses of tungsten as one such area, recycling methods being another. In her view, the Committee should avoid always discussing the same subjects.

45. The representative of The Netherlands pointed out that the ITIA Symposium held in Budapest in October 1990 had been attended by industry advisers, who were thus not interested in yet another meeting. In his view, the Committee should not try to compete with ITIA but should rather co-ordinate efforts on such subjects as recycling and environmental protection.

46. Following comments by a number of delegates, the representative of the European Economic Community provided clarification on the agreement recently reached between China and the EEC regarding the importation of Chinese tungsten concentrates and some tungsten products into EEC countries. Although the agreed price clauses were confidential, he was able to provide some details concerning the duties and controls involved in the agreement. Regarding the duties, he said that undertakings were offered by the China

Chamber of Commerce of Metals, Minerals and Chemicals, acting on behalf of two Chinese exporters, namely the China National Non-Ferrous Metals Import and Export Corporation and China National Metals and Minerals Import and Export Corporation (MINMETAL) to maintain supply in accordance with the rates shown in the table annexed to this report (Annex III). As regards the system of controls, he said that each quarter (after 31 December 1990, 31 March 1991 and so on), the two parties involved (EEC and China Chamber of Commerce) proceeded to bilateral checking of import volumes and prices, with the aim of verifying compliance with the undertakings.

Guest speakers

47. At its twenty-second session, the Committee was addressed by two guest speakers, Mr. Marchenko from the Department of Tungsten and Molybdenum Industry of the Soviet Ministry of Metallurgy (USSR) and Mr. Doronjkin from the "Soyuztverdosplav" Production Association (USSR).

48. The first speaker presented background information on the situation and developments in the Soviet tungsten industry during the 1980s. He noted, inter alia, that in his country tungsten was considered to be a strategic raw material. For this reason, he was not in a position to offer statistical data on production and consumption of tungsten. However, he could give figures on percentage changes in Soviet tungsten production, consumption and imports during the past nine years. The salient feature was that consumption of tungsten concentrates during the last decade had decreased by 9.4 per cent while during the same period production had increased by 16.5 per cent. The corresponding figures for changes in consumption and production in the period 1986 to 1989 were minus 7.8 and plus 11.5 per cent, respectively. As a result, the USSR had been able to reduce imports of tungsten concentrates by 28 per cent during the past four years, thus reducing considerably the share of imports in total consumption of tungsten. He also reported on the survey of Soviet tungsten production facilities. Finally, he indicated the interest of the USSR to involve foreign capital in the development of tungsten mining, beneficiation and metallurgical facilities.

49. The second speaker addressed the question of technologies used in the USSR in tungsten concentrate, scrap processing, and manufacture of tungsten products. He explained the end-use applications for tungsten as well as research and development activities, including the development of new alloys in the USSR. He said that his Association had significantly broadened its trade and scientific co-operation with the leading world tungsten producers in recent years. There was now an interest in mutually beneficial contracts, covering delivery of various tungsten products.

50. Both presentations were highly appreciated for their informative and technical quality. Comments were made by two representatives (United States of America and International Tungsten Industry Association) and by the UNCTAD secretariat. Clarification was sought on a number of technical points as well as on developments in the tungsten industry in the USSR.

51. In response to comments on the domestic pricing system, made by the representative of ITIA, and on investment prospects made by the UNCTAD secretariat, the representative of the USSR stated that foreign capital investments were welcomed in the most efficient projects. He saw possibilities for joint involvement on tungsten, given the relatively low

production costs in relation to tungsten prices which were of course likely to increase eventually, if not in the immediate future. Referring to the special policy intended to attract foreign investment, he said that this policy, promulgated by a presidential decree, had created a very favourable climate in terms of both profits and taxes. Recent legislation was based on encouraging foreign investment.

52. The Committee recommended that the presentations of the two USSR guest speakers be translated and circulated as documents of the Committee (see TD/B/C.1/TUNGSTEN/L.23 and TD/B/C.1/TUNGSTEN/L.24).

Chapter II

REVIEW OF THE DISCUSSIONS, PROPOSALS AND WORK TO DATE ON THE QUESTION OF STABILIZING THE TUNGSTEN MARKET WITH A VIEW TO DETERMINING APPROPRIATE COURSES OF ACTION TO ENABLE THE GOVERNMENTS OF PRODUCING AND CONSUMING COUNTRIES TO BE IN A POSITION TO REACH AGREEMENT ON MEASURES TO STABILIZE THE TUNGSTEN MARKET AND TO ARRIVE AT AN EARLY DECISION ON THE CONVENING OF A NEGOTIATING CONFERENCE

(Agenda item 5)

53. Introducing the UNCTAD secretariat report on this item (TD/B/C.1/TUNGSTEN/86), the representative of the UNCTAD secretariat explained the approach taken and the coverage of the study. The report described the research and development programmes of several countries. The information supplied by respondents suggested that research and development conducted in the tungsten industry to promote new applications of tungsten had normally been pursued in countries with a significant interest in tungsten, whether as a producer or consumer of tungsten, or as a supplier or exporter of tungsten products. Answers also revealed that such programmes were somewhat limited in number or size; very few were joint ventures. The low number of joint programmes was attributable to such factors as lack of knowledge or information about research and development programmes conducted beyond national boundaries, not to mention the problems of co-ordinating joint research and sharing of commercial gains. He noted that there was nonetheless an overwhelming response favouring greater investment in research and development programmes. In this respect, many areas were identified as offering potential benefits. The results of the survey also indicated a high degree of unanimity on the advantages of co-operative international research and development programmes. A word of caution was in order, however. For diverse reasons, including the need for additional resources and the limited research funds available at the national level, few respondents had indicated any significant change in the focus or level of research and development investments related to tungsten, despite the prevailing inadequate level.

54. The representative of the United States of America said that he had received a limited number of responses from American companies but regrettably had been unable to forward the results to the secretariat. However, he wished to present some details for the benefit of the Committee. Regarding question 1 of the questionnaire, the majority of replies had indicated little activity on research and development for the promotion of tungsten. In view of the answer to question 1, question 2 (a) was not relevant. The replies for 2 (b) showed that there were some programmes investigating the substitution of tungsten with other materials such as ceramics and cermets. As regards question 3, several companies regarded research and development as necessary to increase demand for tungsten. On co-operative research and development programmes (question 4), the response was mixed, with some companies considering such programmes beneficial. With regard to question 5, the response was negative, that is, no change of focus or commitment on research and development programmes was envisaged.

55. The representative of the International Tungsten Industry Association (ITIA), recalling his own experience with research and development, said that the efforts in this direction by the Primary Tungsten Association

(a forerunner of the International Tungsten Industry Association) had been unsuccessful, largely owing to the lack of resources. Some time ago, a research and development project had been proposed by the Government of Canada. If they would be useful to the Committee, he was quite willing to make available details of the various research and development proposals which had been communicated to ITIA.

56. The representative of Portugal stated that Portuguese industry experts could not afford to attend the Committee sessions since their companies were in dire economic straits. His country was open to any suggestions to make the Committee more attractive to industry experts. One possibility was to have a parallel technical meeting and to reduce the number of plenary meetings to two, one at the beginning and one at the end of the session. He was also ready to contemplate an agenda change with a view to improving the efficiency of the Committee's work.

57. Referring to TD/B/C.1/TUNGSTEN/86, he provided the Committee with his country's answers to the questionnaire. The answer to question 1 was negative. Conversely, the response to question 3 was positive. Regarding questions 4 and 5, the response was rather mixed. While the Portuguese tungsten industry was open to all concrete proposals in the area of co-operative international research programmes, there was some doubt as to how such co-operation could be achieved. He pointed out that secrecy was very high in this industry so that it was difficult to envisage how international co-operation on research and development programmes for tungsten could be made to work. Nevertheless, Portugal was willing to give careful consideration to any concrete proposal to this end.

58. In conclusion, he urged the Committee to consider the possibility of using the Second Account of the Common Fund for Commodities to finance such programmes. In his view, under the prevailing market conditions, private funding of research and development projects would be difficult.

59. The representative of the International Tungsten Industry Association said that he believed there were prospects for research and development in the area of new applications for tungsten. The Committee might wish to pursue work in this direction. The question was where resources could be found. One possibility in this respect was for the Committee to approach certain special institutes. As far as his Association was concerned, it would be happy to liaise on any such work.

60. In the view of the representative of China, the report of the secretariat was a useful one. He pointed out that the information on his country had come from only one factory and not a company, as indicated in the report, and hence did not represent the view of the Chinese tungsten industry. If conditions were met and resources available, China would welcome international co-operation on research and development. However, he wished to make it clear that these activities could only be one part of the Committee's work and they were not the only issue to be considered under item 5. The Committee was an intergovernmental body, not an expert group. The basic mandate of the Committee was to strengthen co-operation between consumers and producers in order to seek measures for the stabilization of the tungsten market. This objective remained valid.

61. As for the participation in the Committee of industry advisers, he said that China always welcomed such participation. However, his country could not agree with the suggestion to change the mandate so as to attract industry advisers who had lost interest in the Committee's work. If some members of the Committee tried to amend the wording of this agenda item and lead it far away from the basic concept of the original wording, it might be difficult for his delegation to accept this. Although such amendments might attract some industry advisers, the Committee would lose its attraction for the Chinese delegation.

Chapter III

OTHER BUSINESS

(Agenda item 6)

(a) Designation of the Committee on Tungsten as an international commodity body of the Common Fund for Commodities

62. Under this item, the Chairman recalled that at its twenty-first session, the Committee had agreed to request the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to approach the Common Fund informally in order to seek its view on the eligibility of the Committee to be designated as an international commodity body. He referred in this connection to the statement made by the Managing Director of the Common Fund at the previous session of the Committee on Commodities. Without a formal decision requesting such designation, the Executive Board of the Common Fund could do nothing in this regard, however, the Committee would therefore have to decide whether it wished to take a formal decision.

63. In response to many legal and technical points raised during the discussion, clarification was provided by the Deputy Director of the Commodities Division.

(b) Action by the Committee

64. The proposal by the Chairman for formally seeking designation of the Committee as an international commodity body for the purpose of the Second Account of the Common Fund on Commodities was adopted by the Committee at its 4th plenary meeting on 13 December 1990 (see annex IV).

65. At the same meeting on 13 December 1990, the Committee agreed on a draft provisional agenda for its twenty-third session (see Annex V).

Chapter IV

STATEMENTS MADE AT THE COMMITTEE'S CLOSING PLENARY MEETING

66. In summing up the proceedings, the Chairman made the following remarks. The Committee, on the basis of the discussions in the Sessional Working Group, had recognized that the tungsten industry was faced with many problems including extensive mine closures, continuing imbalance between supply and demand and low price levels. The estimated average price for wolframite in 1990 was $US 46.40 per metric ton unit, a lower average price than had been recorded at any time in the 1980s. This had led to a further contraction in the number of suppliers and a significant reduction in the number of importers. It had also resulted in price-cutting competition, especially for concentrates and intermediate products in the context of a large overhang of stocks of tungsten materials in both the producing and consuming countries. It was provoking increased use of protectionist measures which were in the long-term interest of neither producers nor consumers.

67. The Committee had agreed that it was important to improve significantly market transparency. In the statistics provided by the secretariat, only 25 per cent of world production and a slightly higher percentage of consumption were actual as opposed to estimated figures. In response to appeals by a number of members of the Committee to eliminate estimates in data for past years, certain major consumers and producers had stated that they would explore the possibility of providing the secretariat in 1991 with actual data on consumption, production and trade. The Committee had noted these statements with appreciation.

68. The Committee had also recognized that technological changes were having both positive and negative impacts on tungsten consumption. One member Government had requested that further studies be carried out in this area. Certain bilateral trading arrangements were in existence between major consumers and the major producer. Their effects remained unclear but basically seemed to stem from the low price levels prevailing in the tungsten market.

69. From the discussions, the outlook for the tungsten market in the immediate future did not appear encouraging, given the continuing slow-down in world economic activity and the oversupply. The Persian Gulf crisis was another element of uncertainty. In the absence of effective measures to achieve an improved balance between supply and demand, the downward pressure on prices was likely to continue. Other factors likely to influence the longer-term prospects for tungsten were the developments taking place in Eastern Europe and Asia, disarmament and environmental considerations. These could stimulate both supply and demand and bring about changes in applications for tungsten.

70. The Committee had called for greater participation by industry advisers in its future work. Virtually all members had agreed that it was essential to take specific steps to attract industry to make an improved contribution. The Committee had appreciated the presentations made by the guest speakers from the USSR on developments in the Soviet tungsten industry and had invited other countries to make national contributions in the future. The Committee had

decided that one day of its work should be devoted to considering industry's views on particular aspects of the tungsten market, such as new end-uses and other technological developments, substitution, recycling and environmental considerations, as well as research and development activities. The Committee had thus agreed to include a specific item on this matter in the provisional agenda for its twenty-third session along with an item on consideration of ways, means and measures to improve the functioning and stability of the tungsten market through strengthened international co-operation between Governments and industries of producing and consuming countries.

71. In the light of the decision taken by the Committee to seek designation as an international commodity body for the purpose of the Second Account of the Common Fund for Commodities, the Committee had agreed that, at its twenty-third session, it would consider project proposals by Governments and industry and had requested the UNCTAD secretariat to inform Governments and industry accordingly.

72. The representative of China commended the Chairman for his summary which reflected some views expressed by delegations and had sought to accommodate the views of the Chinese delegation. While some views were common to the Committee, however, certain views advanced as having been agreed on by the Committee were not in fact held in common and hence could not be endorsed by the Chinese delegation. Owing to the time factor, he would not comment in detail specifically on the Chairman's summing up, but wished nevertheless to reaffirm the Chinese position on some of the issues discussed.

73. On the question of improving the tungsten market, during the debate China's agreed input to improve the tungsten situation had differed from that of other members of the Committee. There was thus a divergence of views on how to bring about market improvements. Some delegations were of the opinion that this question was of concern to only one or two countries instead of all, producers and consumers alike. This assumption was incomprehensible.

74. He then referred to the conclusions of the Committee on Commodities which had reaffirmed the complementarity of national and international policies. This approach was likewise reflected in areas for strengthening co-operation on improving market commodity agreements and arrangements. He wondered why no need for specific measures to this end had been felt by the Committee on Tungsten. Moreover, it was difficult to understand that some delegations had reiterated the view of Governments seeking free trade through market forces and opposing market intervention, while at the same time they were member States of the international rubber agreement which had economic clauses.

75. During the session some delegations had stressed the need to let industry play a bigger role. China had always attached importance to the role of industry and continued to support the contribution of its representatives. This was why China had endorsed the proposal to examine the specific views of industry at the Committee's twenty-third session and looked forward to a meaningful review under this agenda item. However, he wished to point out that the Committee was an intergovernmental forum for policy review. Along with the time devoted to a review of statistics and technical reports, it was more important to review the market situation and adopt measures to seek solutions and ways to promote international co-operation on market improvement. This was the orientation always followed at previous sessions, as could be seen by their agendas. Today, under the pretext of attracting the

interest of industry, some countries had tried to reverse the orientation of work and to blame the Chinese delegation. This distorted the truth.

76. The representative of the United States of America said that the Chairman's summary accurately reflected the discussions at the session. He expressed particular appreciation for the presentations of the two guest speakers from the Soviet Union, as well as for the data that had been communicated.

77. He observed that in the work of the Committee there remained significant gaps in data. He expressed the hope that the Committee could be energized to promote co-operation at future sessions, as greater transparency was vital to furthering the Committee's work. Finally, he said that the statement made by the representative of China had been helpful in articulating the Chinese position.

78. The representative of Turkey expressed gratitude to the Chairman for his excellent leadership and the outstanding efforts which had been made towards reaching agreement.

79. In his concluding remarks, the Chairman stated that, even if the Committee had been unable to achieve as much as members would have wished during its session, very substantial progress had been made. The decision on the Common Fund would open up new avenues of work for the Committee. The provisional agenda approved by the Committee for its twenty-third session, giving new orientation to its work, should revive the interest of both Governments and industry in the deliberations. As a result, the Committee's work should be seen as providing the foundation for more active involvement by Governments and industry. This outcome was an indication of the desire that the Committee address in a concrete manner the concerns of the tungsten economy.

Chapter V

ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

(a) Opening of the session

80. The twenty-second session of the Committee on Tungsten was opened on 10 December 1990 by Mr. Carlos Fortin, Deputy to the Secretary-General of UNCTAD and Director of the Commodities Division, in the absence of the incumbent Chairman.

(b) Election of officers (agenda item 1)

81. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 10 December 1990, the Committee elected Mr. Wolfgang MUELLER (Australia) as its Chairman and Mr. Y. ERSHOV (USSR) as its Vice-Chairman-cum-Rapporteur.

82. As provided for in the terms of reference and operating procedures of the Sessional Working Group (TD/B/C.1/268), the officers of the Committee served as the officers of the Working Group.

(c) Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 2)

83. Also at its 1st plenary meeting, the Committee adopted its provisional agenda (TD/B/C.1/TUNGSTEN/83), as follows:

1. Election of officers

2. Adoption of the agenda

3. Discussions of the Sessional Working Group:

   (a) Examination of statistics provided by the secretariat

   (b) Review of the current market situation and outlook

4. Consideration of the report of the Sessional Working Group

5. Review of the discussions, proposals and work to date on the question of stabilizing the tungsten market with a view to determining appropriate courses of action to enable the Governments of producing and consuming countries to be in a position to reach agreement on measures to stabilize the tungsten market and to arrive at an early decision on the convening of a negotiating conference.

6. Other business

7. Adoption of the report of the Committee on Tungsten to the Committee on Commodities.

(d) Representation */

84. The following States members of UNCTAD, members of the Committee were represented at the session: Australia; Austria; Belgium; Bolivia; Brazil; China; France; Germany; Italy; Japan; Mexico; Netherlands; Peru; Portugal; Republic of Korea; Spain; Sweden; Thailand; Turkey; Union of Soviet Socialist Republics; United States of America.

85. The following other States members of UNCTAD, not members of the Committee, were represented at the session: Finland; India; Indonesia; Ireland; Kuwait; Norway; Panama; Philippines.

86. The following specialized agency was represented at the session: International Monetary Fund. The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade was also represented.

87. The following intergovernmental organization was represented at the session: European Economic Community.

88. The following non-governmental organization was represented at the session: Special Category: International Tungsten Industry Association.

(e) Consideration of the report of the Sessional Working Group (agenda item 4)

89. At its closing plenary meeting, on 14 December 1990, the Committee adopted the report of the Sessional Working Group (TD/B/C.1/TUNGSTEN/L.25 and Add.1).

(f) Adoption of the report of the Committee to the Committee on Commodities (agenda item 7)

90. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted its draft report (TD/B/C.1/TUNGSTEN/L.25 and Add.2), and authorized the Rapporteur to complete the final text, as appropriate.

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*/ For the list of participants, see document TD/B/C.1/TUNGSTEN/INF./16.

ANNEX I

STATISTICAL TABLES

Table 1

Data summary: the current situation and outlook with respect to tungsten ores and concentrates

(metric tons of contained tungsten)

	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990 a/
Production	50670	48022	42962	50740	49441	46264	40980	46146	50437	45697
Consumption	47305	39896	39885	47415	44968	42456	44657	46134	47988	47670
Imports	27432	22844	20956	26931	25135	21398	20986	24681	25297	20560
Exports	27886	25907	26246	26512	27092	23781	22792	24262	25947	18979

Source: Based on tungsten statistics of the Committee on Tungsten.

a/ Estimates, partly based on data provided by delegations.

TABLE 2

PRODUCTION OF TUNGSTEN ORE AND CONCENTRATES

(METRIC TONS OF W. CONTENT)

	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
WORLD.....	48038.0	42980.0	50763.0	49239.0	46264.0	40980.0	46146.0	50437.0	45697.0	..
DEVELOPED MARKET ECONOMY COUNTRIES...	12213.0	8248.0	12142.0	11388.0	9027.0	4322.0	5254.0E	4872.0	4540.0	..
AMERICA.....	4459.0	1308.0	4918.0	4001.0	2053.0	34.0	360.0E	0.0	0.0	..
Canada.....	2938.0	328.0	3715.0	3005.0	1273.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	..
United States.....	1521.0	980.0	1203.0	996.0	780.0	34.0	360.0E	0.0	0.0	..
EUROPE.....	4396.0	4269.0	4837.0	4846.0	4821.0	2873.0	3293.0	3144.0	2940.0	..
EEC.....	*2641.0*	*2496.0*	*2820.0*	*2963.0*	*3077.0*	*1289.0*	*1461.0*	*1464.0*	*1440.0*	..
France.....	726.0	793.0	742.0	735.0	937.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	..
Portugal.....	1359.0	1182.0	1509.0	1766.0	1657.0	1209.0	1381.0	1376.0	1380.0E	..
Spain.....	556.0	521.0	569.0	462.0	483.0	80.0	80.0	58.0	60.0E	..
United Kingdom...	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	30.0	0.0	..
EFTA.....	*1755.0*	*1773.0*	*2017.0*	*1883.0*	*1744.0*	*1584.0*	*1832.0*	*1680.0E*	*1500.0*	..
Austria.....	1406.0	1408.0	1632.0	1481.0	1387.0	1250.0E	1507.0	1500.0E	1500.0E	..
Sweden.....	349.0	365.0	385.0	402.0	357.0	334.0	325.0	180.0E	0.0	..
ASIA.....	763.0	605.0	649.0	566.0	576.0	258.0	335.0	373.0	300.0E	..
Japan.....	763.0	605.0	649.0	566.0	576.0	258.0	335.0	373.0	300.0E	..
OCEANIA.....	2595.0	2066.0	1738.0	1975.0E	1577.0E	1157.0E	1266.0E	1355.0E	1300.0	..
Australia.....	2588.0	2061.0	1733.0	1970.0	1572.0	1152.0	1261.0	1350.0E	1300.0E	..
New Zealand.....	7.0	5.0	5.0	5.0E	5.0E	5.0E	5.0E	5.0E	0.0	..
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES.....	9645.0	8452.0	9071.0	8301.0	6687.0	5608.0	5542.0	5215.0	4807.0	..
AFRICA.....	528.0	308.0	370.0	199.0	46.0	26.0	26.0	30.0	20.0	..
Rwanda.....	322.0	231.0	291.0	167.0	13.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	..
Uganda.....	18.0	18.0E	20.0E	4.0E	4.0E	4.0E	5.0E	5.0E	0.0	..
Zaire.....	136.0	44.0	30.0	18.0	27.0	21.0	20.0E	20.0E	20.0E	..
Zimbabwe.....	52.0	15.0	29.0	10.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	5.0E	0.0	..
AMERICA.....	4688.0	4406.0	3954.0	3980.0	2953.0	1963.0	2429.0	2351.0	2202.0E	..
Argentina.....	17.0	40.0	29.0	17.0	20.0	14.0	15.0	8.0	10.0E	..
Bolivia.....	2534.0	2490.0	1893.0	1643.0	1160.0	624.0	924.0	1118.0	1200.0E	..
Brazil.....	1365.0	1026.0	1101.0	1297.0	875.0	672.0	739.0	790.0E	420.0E	..
Guatemala.....	40.0	0.0	0.0	9.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	..
Mexico.....	78.0	147.0	145.0	282.0	294.0	213.0	206.0	170.0	202.0E	
Peru.....	654.0	703.0	786.0	732.0	604.0	440.0	545.0	265.0	370.0E	..
ASIA.....	4429.0	3738.0	4747.0	4122.0	3688.0	3619.0	3087.0	2834.0E	2585.0E	..
Burma.....	844.0	930.0	1096.0	945.0	715.0	493.0	450.0	464.0	450.0E	..
India.....	28.0	16.0	29.0	28.0	23.0	26.0	19.0	12.0	15.0E	..
Malaysia.....	43.0	31.0	25.0	20.0	2.0	20.0E	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Republic of Korea.	2539.0	2101.0	2702.0	2370.0	2240.0	2180.0	1825.0	1560.0	1300.0E	..
Thailand.....	856.0	563.0	742.0	585.0	512.0	702.0	651.0	648.0	670.0E	..
Turkey.....	119.0	97.0	153.0	174.0	196.0	198.0	142.0	150.0E	150.0E	..

TABLE 2 (continued)

PRODUCTION OF TUNGSTEN ORE AND CONCENTRATES

(METRIC TONS OF W. CONTENT)

	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.....	340.0	249.0	311.0	171.0	17.0	4.0	5.0	5.0	..	..
SOCIALIST COUNTRIES OF EASTERN EUROPE...	9480.0E	9780.0E	10050.0E	10050.0E	9050.0E	9050.0E	7550.0E	7550.0E	7050.0E	..
Czechoslovakia....	80.0E	80.0E	50.0E	50.0E	50.0E	50.0E	50.0E	50.0E	50.0E	..
USSR.....	9400.0E	9700.0E	10000.0E	10000.0E	9000.0E	9000.0E	7500.0E	7500.0E	7000.0E	..
SOCIALIST COUNTRIES OF ASIA.....	16700.0E	16500.0E	19500.0E	19500.0E	21500.0E	22000.0E	27800.0E	32800.0E	29300.0E	..
China.....	13000.0E	14000.0E	17000.0E	17000.0E	19000.0E	20000.0E	25000.0E	30000.0E	27000.0E	..
Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea ...	2200.0E	1000.0E	1000.0E	1000.0E	1000.0E	500.0E	500.0E	500.0E	500.0E	..
Mongolia.....	1500.0E	1500.0E	1500.0E	1500.0E	1500.0E	1500.0E	2000.0E	2000.0E	1500.0E	..
Viet Nam.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	300.0E	300.0E	300.0E	..

Sources: National statistics and questionnaires and data provided by delegations.
Notes: E indicates estimates.

TABLE 3

CONSUMPTION OF TUNGSTEN ORE AND CONCENTRATES

(METRIC TONS OF W. CONTENT)

	1982	*1983*	*1984*	*1985*	*1986*	*1987*	*1988*	*1989*	*1990*	*1991*
WORLD.....	39896.0	39885.0	47415.0	44968.0	42456.0	44657.0	46134.0	47988.0	47670.0	6800.0
DEVELOPED MARKET ECONOMY COUNTRIES...	12286.0	13394.0	19849.0	16812.0	13336.0	14117.0	15951.0	14857.0	11935.0E	6800.0E
AMERICA.....	4506.0	5181.0	8577.0	6838.0	4810.0	6271.0	8218.0	7735.0	7300.0E	6800.0E
Canada.....	..	..	..	0.0	6.0	765.0	386.0	10.0E	0.0	..
United States.....	4506.0	5181.0	8577.0	6838.0	4804.0	5506.0	7832.0	7725.0	7300.0E	6800.0E
EUROPE.....	5552.0	5841.0E	8579.0E	6992.0E	6032.0E	5275.0E	5378.0E	5198.0E	3030.0E	..
EEC.....	*3254.0*	*3438.0E*	*5718.0E*	*4172.0E*	*3177.0E*	*2708.0E*	*2728.0E*	*3078.0E*	*850.0E*	..
Belgium-Lux.....	9.0E	10.0	142.0	341.0	30.0	50.0E	50.0E	2.0	0.0	..
France.....	653.0	520.0	815.0	808.0	677.0	269.0	34.0	0.0	0.0	..
Germany, Federal Republic of	1541.0	2030.0	3934.0	2073.0	1720.0	1863.0	2144.0	2576.0	500.0E	..
Italy.....	40.0E	27.0	78.0	92.0	80.0	86.0	100.0E	100.0E	0.0	..
Netherlands.....	300.0E	300.0E	300.0E	400.0E	350.0E	300.0E	330.0E	350.0E	300.0E	..
Portugal.....	183.0	174.0	159.0	158.0	40.0	20.0	0.0	..	0.0	..
Spain.....	161.0	107.0	40.0E	60.0E	50.0E	20.0E	20.0E	0.0	0.0	..
United Kingdom...	367.0	270.0E	250.0E	240.0E	230.0E	100.0E	50.0E	50.0E	50.0E	..
EFTA.....	*2298.0*	*2403.0*	*2861.0*	*2820.0*	*2855.0*	*2567.0*	*2650.0*	*2120.0*	*2180.0E*	..
Austria.....	1304.0	1629.0	2096.0	2000.0E	2000.0E	2000.0E	2100.0E	1800.0E	1800.0E	..
Sweden.....	994.0	774.0	765.0	820.0	855.0	567.0	550.0	320.0	380.0E	..
SOUTH AFRICA.....	250.0	250.0E	250.0E	250.0E	250.0E	250.0E	250.0E	250.0E	..	..
ASIA.....	1826.0	1977.0	2302.0	2616.0	2145.0	2116.0	1980.0	1539.0	1500.0E	..
Japan.....	1826.0	1977.0	2302.0	2616.0	2145.0	2116.0	1980.0	1539.0	1500.0E	..
OCEANIA.....	152.0E	145.0E	141.0E	116.0E	99.0E	205.0E	125.0E	135.0E	105.0E	..
Australia.....	145.0	140.0	136.0	111.0	94.0	200.0E	120.0E	130.0E	100.0E	..
New Zealand.....	7.0E	5.0E	5.0E	5.0E	5.0E	5.0E	5.0E	5.0E	5.0E	..
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES.....	2698.0	2318.0	2872.0	3453.0	2956.0	3196.0	2559.0	2931.0	2635.0	..
AMERICA.....	502.0	513.0	645.0	1155.0	739.0	996.0	792.0	731.0E	435.0E	..
Argentina.....	29.0	41.0	30.0E	28.0	25.0	65.0	30.0E	38.0	30.0E	..
Brazil.....	454.0	450.0	538.0	1048.0	672.0	867.0	753.0	688.0E	400.0E	..
Mexico.....	19.0	22.0	77.0	79.0	42.0	64.0	9.0	5.0E	5.0E	..
ASIA.....	2196.0	1805.0	2227.0	2298.0	2217.0	2200.0	1767.0	2200.0	2200.0E	..
India.....	454.0	250.0	157.0	250.0E	230.0	250.0E	187.0	200.0E	200.0E	..
Republic of Korea.	1742.0	1555.0	2070.0	2048.0	1987.0	1950.0	1580.0	2000.0	2000.0E	..

TABLE 3 (continued)

CONSUMPTION OF TUNGSTEN ORE AND CONCENTRATES

(METRIC TONS OF W. CONTENT)

	1982	*1983*	*1984*	*1985*	*1986*	*1987*	*1988*	*1989*	*1990*	*1991*
SOCIALIST COUNTRIES OF EASTERN EUROPE...	19312.0E	19173.0E	18694.0E	17703.0E	18364.0E	18844.0E	17124.0E	16700.0E	14600.0E	..
Bulgaria.....	100.0E	100.0E	100.0E	100.0E	100.0E	100.0E	100.0E	100.0E	100.0E	..
Czechoslovakia....	1300.0E	1300.0E	1300.0E	1300.0E	1300.0E	1300.0E	1300.0E	1300.0E	1300.0E	..
German Democratic Republic	300.0E	300.0E	300.0E	300.0E	300.0E	300.0E	300.0E	300.0E	300.0E	
Hungary.....	400.0E	400.0E	400.0E	400.0E	400.0E	400.0E	500.0E	500.0E	400.0E	..
Poland.....	1312.0	1073.0	594.0	603.0	1264.0	744.0	424.0	0.0	0.0	..
USSR.....	15900.0E	16000.0E	16000.0E	15000.0E	15000.0E	16000.0E	14500.0E	14500.0E	12500.0E	..
SOCIALIST COUNTRIES OF ASIA.....	5600.0E	5000.0E	6000.0E	7000.0E	7800.0E	8500.0E	10500.0E	13500.0E	18500.0E	..
China.....	4000.0E	4000.0E	5000.0E	6000.0E	7000.0E	8000.0E	10000.0E	13000.0E	18000.0E	..
Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea	1600.0E	1000.0E	1000.0E	1000.0E	800.0E	500.0E	500.0E	500.0E	500.0E	..

Sources: National statistics and questionnaires and data provided by delegations.
Notes: E indicates estimates.

TABLE 4

VOLUME OF IMPORTS OF TUNGSTEN ORE AND CONCENTRATES

(METRIC TONS OF W. CONTENT)

	1982	*1983*	*1984*	*1985*	*1986*	*1987*	*1988*	*1989*	*1990*	*1991*
WORLD.....	22844.0	20956.0	26931.0	25135.0	21398.0	20986.0	24681.0	25297.0	20560.0	6750.0
DEVELOPED MARKET ECONOMY COUNTRIES...	10353.0	9971.0	15820.0	12752.0	8636.0	9541.0	13714.0	13291.0	10800.0E	6750.0E
AMERICA.....	3536.0	2873.0	5814.0	4755.0	2532.0	4436.0	8045.0	7896.0	7000.0E	6750.0E
Canada.....	8.0	12.0	7.0	9.0	10.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	..
United States.....	3528.0	2861.0	5807.0	4746.0	2522.0	4435.0	8045.0	7896.0	7000.0E	6750.0E
EUROPE.....	5308.0	4995.0	8147.0	6084.0	4830.0	3750.0	3747.0	3766.0	2350.0E	..
EEC.....	*3086.0*	*2958.0*	*5598.0*	*3406.0*	*2425.0*	*2539.0*	*2641.0*	*2943.0*	*600.0E*	..
Belgium-Lux.....	0.0	0.0	141.0	341.0	30.0	72.0	50.0E	2.0	0.0	..
France.....	467.0	157.0	400.0	201.0	103.0	22.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	..
Germany,Federal Republic of	1541.0	2071.0	3934.0	2074.0	1720.0	1863.0	2220.0	2594.0	500.0E	..
Italy.....	27.0	27.0	78.0	92.0	80.0	86.0	30.0E	30.0E	30.0E	..
Netherlands.....	369.0	315.0	547.0	353.0	172.0	307.0	330.0	271.0	20.0E	..
United Kingdom...	682.0	388.0	498.0	345.0	320.0	189.0	11.0	44.0	50.0E	..
EFTA.....	*2222.0*	*2037.0*	*2549.0*	*2678.0*	*2405.0*	*1211.0*	*1106.0*	*823.0*	*1750.0E*	..
Austria.....	1304.0	1669.0	2110.0	2057.0	1675.0	1066.0	674.0	435.0	1400.0E	..
Sweden.....	918.0	368.0	439.0	621.0	730.0	145.0	409.0	356.0	300.0E	..
, Switzerland.....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	23.0	32.0	50.0E	..
SOUTH AFRICA.....	200.0	261.0	203.0	279.0	265.0	250.0E	250.0E	250.0E	250.0E	..
ASIA.....	1309.0	1833.0	1656.0	1634.0	1007.0	1105.0	1671.0	1379.0	1200.0E	..
Japan.....	1309.0	1833.0	1656.0	1634.0	1007.0	1105.0	1671.0	1379.0	1200.0E	..
OCEANIA.....	0.0	9.0	..	0.0	2.0E	0.0	1.0E	0.0	0.0	..
Australia.....	0.0	9.0	..	0.0	2.0E	0.0	1.0E	0.0	0.0	..
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES.....	2229.0	862.0	1467.0	3230.0	2948.0	1651.0	1393.0	3006.0	2260.0	..
AMERICA.....	..	..	24.0	12.0	5.0	123.0	72.0	69.0	0.0	..
Argentina.....	..	..	..	11.0	5.0	50.0	54.0	30.0	..	..
Brazil.....	0.0	0.0	24.0	0.0	0.0	72.0	17.0	39.0	0.0	..
Venezuela.....	..	..	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	..
ASIA.....	2229.0	862.0	1443.0	3216.0	2943.0	1528.0	1321.0	2937.0	2260.0E	..
Hong Kong.....	1162.0	0.0	26.0	2109.0	2013.0	709.0	731.0	1886.0	1000.0E	..
India.....	552.0	224.0	149.0	220.0	250.0E	194.0	177.0	180.0E	100.0E	..
Indonesia.....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.0E	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	..
Malaysia.....	15.0E	15.0E	15.0E	11.0	29.0	20.0E	20.0E	20.0E	0.0	..
Republic of Korea.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	500.0	810.0E	..
Singapore.....	500.0	623.0	1253.0	876.0	636.0	605.0	393.0	351.0	350.0E	..

TABLE 4 (continued)

VOLUME OF IMPORTS OF TUNGSTEN ORE AND CONCENTRATES

(METRIC TONS OF W. CONTENT)

	1982	*1983*	*1984*	*1985*	*1986*	*1987*	*1988*	*1989*	*1990*	*1991*
EUROPE.....	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	..
Yugoslavia.....	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	..
SOCIALIST COUNTRIES OF EASTERN EUROPE...	10262.0E	10123.0E	9644.0E	9153.0E	9814.0E	9794.0E	9574.0E	9000.0E	7500.0E	..
Bulgaria.....	100.0E	100.0E	100.0E	100.0E	100.0E	100.0E	100.0E	100.0E	100.0E	..
Czechoslovakia....	1250.0E	1250.0E	1250.0E	1250.0E	1250.0E	1250.0E	1250.0E	1200.0E	1200.0E	..
German Democratic Republic	300.0E	300.0E	300.0E	300.0E	300.0E	300.0E	300.0E	300.0E	300.0E	
Hungary.....	400.0E	400.0E	400.0E	400.0E	400.0E	400.0E	500.0E	400.0E	400.0E	..
Poland.....	1312.0	1073.0	594.0	603.0	1264.0	744.0	424.0	0.0	0.0	..
USSR.....	6900.0E	7000.0E	7000.0E	6500.0E	6500.0E	7000.0E	7000.0E	7000.0E	5500.0E	..

Sources: National statistics and questionnaires and data provided by delegations.
Notes: E indicates estimates.

TABLE 5

VOLUME OF EXPORTS OF TUNGSTEN ORE AND CONCENTRATES

(METRIC TONS OF W. CONTENT)

	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
WORLD.....	25907.0	26246.0	26512.0	27092.0	23781.0	22792.0	24262.0	25947.0	18979.0	50.0
DEVELOPED MARKET ECONOMY COUNTRIES...	7669.0	5265.0	8280.0	7893.0	4833.0	3137.0	3752.0	2984.0E	2677.0E	50.0E
AMERICA.....	2905.0	301.0	3529.0	2923.0	1434.0	2.0	173.0	203.0E	50.0E	50.0E
Canada.....	2600.0	300.0	3400.0E	2800.0E	1400.0E	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	..
United States.....	305.0	1.0	129.0	123.0	34.0	2.0	172.0	203.0E	50.0E	50.0E
EUROPE.....	3365.0	2825.0	2989.0	3166.0	2005.0	2004.0	2369.0	1681.0	1427.0	..
*EEC.....	*3148.0*	*2379.0*	*2705.0*	*3062.0*	*1730.0*	*1829.0*	*1961.0*	*1358.0*	*1427.0*	..
Belgium-Lux.....	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	..
France.....	530.0	478.0	297.0	275.0	202.0	138.0	56.0	0.0	0.0	..
Germany, Federal Republic of.....	0.0	41.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	76.0	18.0	0.0	..
Italy.....	10.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	3.0	0.0	0.0E	40.0E	0.0	..
Netherlands.....	471.0	373.0	268.0	693.0	115.0	13.0	98.0	54.0	57.0	..
Portugal.....	994.0	978.0	1488.0	1548.0	872.0	1231.0	1431.0	1159.0	1370.0E	..
Spain.....	395.0	390.0	489.0	433.0	446.0	115.0	51.0	74.0	0.0	..
United Kingdom...	743.0	119.0	163.0	109.0	92.0	332.0	249.0	13.0	0.0	..
*EFTA.....	*217.0*	*446.0*	*284.0*	*104.0*	*275.0*	*175.0*	*408.0*	*323.0*	..	..
Austria.....	0.0	40.0	14.0	0.0	62.0	32.0	36.0	0.0	0.0	..
Sweden.....	217.0	406.0	270.0	104.0	213.0	143.0	372.0	323.0	..	..
SOUTH AFRICA.....	0.0	1.0	2.0	12.0	..	..	..	0.0	0.0	..
ASIA.....	5.0	51.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	..
Japan.....	5.0	51.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	..
OCEANIA.....	1394.0	2087.0	1760.0	1792.0	1394.0	1131.0	1210.0	1100.0E	1200.0E	..
Australia.....	1394.0	2087.0	1760.0	1792.0	1394.0	1131.0	1210.0	1100.0E	1200.0E	..
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES.....	10177.0	6611.0	7020.0	6747.0	5283.0	6250.0	4156.0	4749.0	4002.0	..
AFRICA.....	527.0	304.0	343.0	237.0	48.0	56.0	36.0	21.0	20.0	..
Rwanda.....	321.0	227.0	264.0	205.0	15.0	30.0	10.0E	0.0	0.0	..
Uganda.....	18.0	18.0	20.0E	4.0	4.0	4.0	5.0E	0.0	0.0	..
Zaire.....	136.0	44.0	30.0	18.0	27.0	21.0	20.0E	20.0E	20.0E	..
Zimbabwe.....	52.0E	15.0E	29.0E	10.0E	2.0E	1.0E	1.0E	1.0E	0.0	..
AMERICA.....	4637.0	3660.0	3365.0	2528.0	2009.0	2043.0E	1571.0	1541.0	1588.0E	..
Argentina.....	0.0	18.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	..
Bolivia.....	2595.0	2050.0	1960.0	1304.0	1193.0	968.0	820.0	1102.0	1110.0E	..
Brazil.....	1245.0	957.0	563.0	248.0	137.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	..
Guatemala.....	40.0	0.0	0.0	9.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	..
Mexico.....	140.0	100.0	124.0	149.0	104.0	235.0	186.0	175.0	143.0E	..
Peru.....	617.0	535.0	718.0	818.0	575.0	840.0E	565.0	264.0	335.0E	..

TABLE 5 (continued)

VOLUME OF EXPORTS OF TUNGSTEN ORE AND CONCENTRATES

(METRIC TONS OF W. CONTENT)

	1982	*1983*	*1984*	*1985*	*1986*	*1987*	*1988*	*1989*	*1990*	*1991*
ASIA.....	5013.0	2647.0	3312.0	3982.0	3226.0	4151.0E	2549.0E	3187.0E	2394.0E	..
Burma.....	800.0	800.0	900.0E	950.0E	700.0E	500.0E	300.0E	300.0E	450.0E	..
Hong Kong.....	2443.0	0.0	0.0	953.0	1117.0	1903.0	1035.0	2023.0	1000.0E	..
Malaysia.....	43.0	31.0	25.0	20.0	2.0	20.0E	0.0	0.0	0.0	..
Republic of Korea.	688.0	625.0	477.0	440.0	302.0	273.0	118.0	0.0	0.0	..
Singapore.....	324.0	451.0	873.0	865.0	376.0	601.0	365.0	315.0	350.0E	..
Thailand.....	712.0	588.0	893.0	589.0	513.0	654.0	581.0	399.0	444.0E	..
Turkey.....	3.0	152.0	144.0	165.0	216.0	200.0E	150.0E	150.0E	150.0E	..
LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.....	339.0	245.0	284.0	209.0	19.0	34.0	15.0	..	..	..
SOCIALIST COUNTRIES OF ASIA.....	8061.0E	14370.0E	11212.0E	12452.0E	13665.0E	13405.0E	16354.0E	18214.0E	12300.0E	..
China.....	5761.0	12870.0	9712.0	10952.0	12165.0	11905.0	14054.0	15914.0	10000.0E	..
Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea .	800.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	..
Mongolia.....	1500.0E	1500.0E	1500.0E	1500.0E	1500.0E	1500.0E	2000.0E	2000.0E	2000.0E	..
Viet Nam.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	300.0E	300.0E	300.0E	..

Sources: National statistics and questionnaires and data provided by delegations.
Notes: E indicates estimates.

TABLE 6

STOCKS OF TUNGSTEN IN ORES AND CONCENTRATES

(METRIC TONS OF W. CONTENT)
(end of year)

	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991
PRODUCERS STOCKS										
Australia	507.0	385.0	306.0	379.0	481.0	435.0	416.0	800.0E	..	..
Bolivia	..	..	..	..	..	..	105.0	130.0	210.0E	200.0E
Brazil	0.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	875.0	..	70.0	84.0E	..	..
France	139.0	159.0	76.0	85.0	205.0	65.0	0.0	0.0	..	..
India	21.0	11.0	32.0	54.0	50.0E	50.0	57.0	10.0	..	..
Japan	211.0	32.0	39.0	27.0	26.0	21.0	41.0	72.0	..	..
Mexico	7.0	12.0	18.0	20.0	95.0	8.0	19.0	13.0	72.0E	..
Peru	..	..	..	46.0	241.0	..	71.0	54.0E	..	..
Portugal	380.0	370.0	251.0	305.0	1042.0	941.0	970.0	1058.0	970.0E	..
Republic of Korea	338.0	76.0	231.0	200.0E	44.0	45.0	45.0E	0.0	..	..
Rwanda	30.0	40.0E	48.0	..	60.0E	10.0E	0.0	0.0	..	..
Spain	..	75.0	114.0	84.0	50.0E	62.0	47.0	45.0	..	..
Thailand	793.0	834.0	804.0	1029.0	1025.0	1100.0E	1295.0	1538.0	1760.0E	..
Turkey	23.0	116.0	96.0	80.0E	145.0	43.0	..	..	..	..
United Kingdom	73.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	..	..
United States	54.0	54.0	46.0	60.0	21.0	21.0	21.0	10.0E	40.0E	..
Total	2576.0	2181.0	2078.0	2386.0	4360.0	2801.0	3157.0	3814.0E	3052.0E	200.0
CONSUMERS STOCKS										
Argentina	9.0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canada	..	..	..	0.0	0.0	255.0	75.0	..	..	..
France	9.0	47.0	177.0	130.0	221.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	..	..
Japan	409.0	511.0	557.0	671.0	687.0	448.0	455.0	561.0	..	..
Portugal	3.0	5.0	3.0	10.0	1.0	..	1.0	1.0	..	..
Sweden	..	..	256.0	302.0	333.0	353.0	..	218.0	64.0E	..
United States	1765.0	1085.0	959.0	1077.0	502.0	329.0	499.0	1261.0	600.0E	..
Total	2195.0	1648.0	1952.0	2190.0	1744.0	1385.0	1030.0	2041.0	664.0E	..
DEALERS STOCKS										
Argentina	23.0	11.0	9.0E	9.0E	..	..	..	..	..	..
Japan	0.0	11.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	..	..
Peru	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.0	7.0	7.0E	..
Thailand	530.0	462.0	339.0	113.0	116.0	120.0E	51.0	56.0	56.0E	..
Total	553.0	484.0	348.0	123.0	116.0	120.0E	58.0	63.0	63.0E	..
GOVERNMENTS STOCKS										
United States	39163.0	38904.0	37536.0	36842.0	36333.0	35625.0	35100.0	34634.0	..	..

Sources: National statistics and questionnaires and data provided by delegations.
Notes: E indicates estimates.

Annex II

ADDENDUM TO THE LIST OF THE DIFFERENT DEFINITIONS AND METHODOLOGIES USED IN MAJOR TUNGSTEN-PRODUCING COUNTRIES

Australia

A mine's capacity is taken as the mine manager's best estimate of the maximum long term sustainable production rate that could be quickly achieved with minimum capital expenditure. In making this estimate, factors such as equipment, mine configuration and mining method, acceptable work practices, maintenance, and supply of materials and energy are taken into account to determine which phase of mining and processing would limit the overall production rate and at what level.

Portugal

The definition applied is that used by the United States Bureau of Mines.

Thailand

Mining methods and equipment are two major factors which help in estimating the capacity of a mine. The method of mining, job conditions and outside factors combined with size, capacity and condition of the equipment also help in determining a mine's capacity.

Annex III

THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN CHINA AND THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY ON THE VOLUME OF IMPORTS INTO EEC COUNTRIES

Table

Increasing rates of "plancher" prices

	PRICES 1/10/90	1/1/90	1/11/90
CONCENTRATES	X	1.06 X	1.12 X
TUNGSTEN OXIDE	Y1	1.026 Y1	1.064 Y1
TUNGSTEN ACID	Y2	1.04 Y2	1.08 Y2
TUNGSTEN CARBIDE	Z1	1.0625 Z1	1.125 Z1
FUSED TUNGSTEN CARBIDE	Z2	1.111 Z2	1.333 Z2

Note: Table reproduced as transmitted by the representative of the EEC.

Annex IV

COMMON FUND FOR COMMODITIES

Decision 1 (XXII)

The Committee on Tungsten,

Decides to seek designation as an International Commodity Body (ICB) for the purpose of the Second Account of the Common Fund as provided in Article 7, paragraph 9 of the Agreement establishing the Common Fund for Commodities,

Requests the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to transmit this decision to the Managing Director of the Common Fund for appropriate action by its Executive Board.

Annex V

DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE TWENTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON TUNGSTEN

1. Election of officers

2. Adoption of the agenda

3. Examination of statistics and review of the current market situation and outlook

4. Consideration of ways, means and measures to improve the functioning and stability of the tungsten market through strengthened international co-operation between governments and industries of producing and consuming countries

5. Consideration of industry views on particular aspects of the tungsten industry

6. Consideration of project proposals by governments and industry which could be submitted for possible financing under the Second Account of the Common Fund for Commodities

7. Provisional agenda for the twenty-fourth session of the Committee

8. Other business

9. Adoption of the report of the Committee on Tungsten to the Committee on Commodities.